Underhill Road Hamden, CT 06517 February 11, 2016

To the Committee on Children:

You have seen the photographs of the burns and the open wounds on the legs of the US women's soccer team. You have read the reports of carcinogens. You have heard the voices of those who deplore eliminating the grass that is natural in our environment and important to our ecology. And you have heard the pleas of the parents of children who will be playing on our playing fields and playgrounds.

As a concerned grandparent and citizen, I urge you to consider the environment and our children's health and vote to ban playground rubber tire mulch. Yes, maintaining grass is more expensive than tire mulch, but to measure cost only in terms of dollars is at best short-sighted and at worst, irresponsible.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Sledge